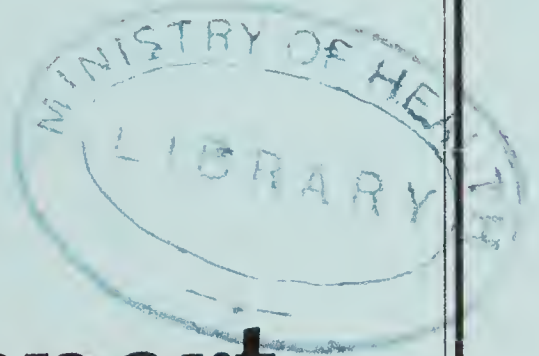


LICHFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
for year 1950.

C. E. JAMISON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b2973194x>

Lichfield Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH 1950

*To the Chairman and Members of
Lichfield Rural District Council.*

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1950, my first complete year of office.

It will be noted that the recorded population of the District is considerably higher than in previous years, but this is mainly due to the fact that service personnel have been included in the figures, for the first time.

The vital statistics show some interesting changes, as compared with previous years. Possibly the most interesting change is a decrease in the birth rate from 18·72 per thousand in 1949 to 14·5 per thousand population in 1950, as compared with a decrease from 16·7 per thousand in 1949 to 15·8 per thousand in 1950, in England and Wales as a whole. The death rate at 9·3 per thousand population and the infant mortality rate at 29·01 per thousand live births both compare favourably with the figures for England and Wales.

The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was, in general, higher than in 1949. In particular, there were 16 cases of paralytic and 9 cases of non-paralytic poliomyelitis, as compared with 1 case in 1949. No specific reason for this increased incidence, which is considerably greater than for the country as a whole, can be given. I am glad to be able to record that no case of diphtheria occurred in the District during 1950.

I should like to express my thanks to Members of the Council, Officers in other Departments of the Council and, in particular, to all staff in the Health Department, for their continued help and co-operation during the year.

C. E. JAMISON,
Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1951.

LICHFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN H. V. Smith, Esq.
 VICE-CHAIRMAN W. F. Hart, Esq., C.C.
 and also

Mrs. C. Bailey, Mrs. A. E. Cresswell, Mrs. F. K. Kirby, Mrs. E. Colquhoun, and Messrs. W. E. Ward, W. Goring, H. C. Ridout, c.c., T. C. Buckle, B.E.M., J. C. Lees, J. W. Ashley, W. Nevill, O.B.E., J.P., H. Deakin, G. E. Walker, W. J. Parr, R. R. Scarratt, W. L. Hemus, R. Garland, J.P., C.A., F. Harris, E. E. Foster, Rev. J. H. Evans, A. Heathcote, J. P. Morrison, J.P., G. E. Wakeman, E. Matthews, C. W. Howitt, P. H. Mercer, G. W. S. Clarke, J. Cliffe, J. B. Nichols, A. E. Legge, A. Done, J. A. J. Briant, A. S. Brown, K. Hargreaves, P. J. Daubner, F. N. Bower, E. M. Williams, G. P. Stubbs, W. A. Wannop, W. J. Ryman, W. B. Deakin.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	Mrs. C. Bailey
VICE-CHAIRMAN	H. C. Ridout, Esq.
H. V. Smith, Esq.	R. Garland, Esq., J.P., C.A.
W. F. Hart, Esq., C.C.	A. Heathcote, Esq.
J. W. Ashley, Esq.	E. Matthews, Esq.
J. A. J. Briant, Esq.	J. P. Morrison, Esq., J.P.
T. C. Buckle, Esq.	G. P. Stubbs, Esq.
J. Cliffe, Esq.	G. E. Wakeman, Esq.
P. J. Daubner, Esq.	G. E. Walker, Esq.
W. B. Deakin, Esq.	W. A. Wannop, Esq.
E. E. Foster, Esq.	E. M. Williams, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

C. E. JAMISON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

GEORGE LEEDER, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

WILLIAM E. SHAW, M.S.I.A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83,715
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,340
Number of inhabited houses at 1/4/51 according to Rate Books								9,580
Rateable Value at 1/4/51	...	...	...	...	...	...		£188,245/10
Net product of Penny Rate at 1/4/51	...	...	...	...	...	...		£725/9/11

Although 96 persons were re-housed in new council houses during the year, and 39 in re-let council houses, the waiting list for houses increased by 135 persons during the same period. Overcrowding, therefore, remains a very important social and medical problem, and is undoubtedly a factor in the continued high incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis.

As a result of the housing shortage, little progress has been made during the year in the demolition of houses unfit for human habitation, but action in respect of the worst of these houses is urgently required.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was taken during the year to enforce the removal to suitable premises of any person in need of proper care and attention.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	273	298	571
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	279	307	586
Birth rate	...	...	14.52 per 1,000 population				
Still Births—					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
Rate per 1,000 total births				...	20.30		
Rate per 1,000 population				...	.29		

						Male	Female	Total	
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	188	188	376	
Death rate		...	...	9·32 per 1,000 population					
Death rate in infants under one year of age—									
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							...	...	29·77
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							...	...	0·0
All infants per 1,000 live births						...	...	...	29·01
Deaths from Cancer				...	...	...	...	...	68
Deaths from Measles				...	...	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough				...	...	...	...	...	1

The following table gives the birth rate, death rate and infant mortality rate for Lichfield Rural District, as compared with that for England and Wales, London, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London), and 148 Smaller Towns :—

	BIRTHRATE		DEATH RATE	INFANT MORTALITY RATE
	LIVE	STILL		
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	29.8
London	17.8	0.36	11.8	26.3
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	17.6	0.45	12.3	33.8
148 Smaller Towns	16.7	0.38	11.6	29.4
Lichfield R. D.	14.5	0.29	9.3	29.01

VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1946	33,790	19.4	9.2	45.9
1947	34,400	21.5	9.97	43.47
1948	34,340	17.82	9.11	37.58
1949	34,740	18.72	10.1	49.2
1950	40,340	14.5	9.3	29.01

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF LICHFIELD DURING THE YEAR 1950

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory... ..	5	1	6
Tuberculosis, other	1	1	2
Syphilitic disease	1	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	1	1
Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis... ..	0	1	1
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	5	9
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	4	2	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	8	8
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	18	41
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	0	2
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	26	45
Coronary diseases, angina	20	12	32
Hypertension with heart disease	5	11	16
Other heart disease	28	34	62
Other circulatory disease	7	5	12
Influenza	0	2	2
Pneumonia	6	5	11
Bronchitis	15	9	24
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	3	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2	5
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	3	5
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	0	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	26	22	48
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	2	6	8
Suicide	3	0	3
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
TOTALS	188	188	376

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health and County Chemical Laboratories at Stafford continued to provide an excellent service for the examination of bacteriological and pathological specimens, together with helpful advice and willing collaboration on epidemiological problems.

Results of examinations carried out during 1950 were as follows :—

Swabs for Diphtheria Bacillus :—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Throat—			
From Practitioners ...	—	56	56
From Isolation Hospital ...	—	1	1
Nose—			
From Practitioners ...	—	8	8
From Isolation Hospital ...	—	1	1
Ear—			
From Practitioners ...	—	—	—
From Isolation Hospital ...	—	—	—

Sputa for Tubercle Bacillus	...	9	41	50
------------------------------------	-----	---	----	----

Samples of Water :—

	Normal	Abnormal	Total
Chemical Examination ...	7	1	8
Bacteriological Examination	18	1	19

Other Specimens :—

Faeces...	...	9	44	53
Swab of Sinus	...	1	—	1
Blood ...	...	—	2	2
Undesignated Milk for Brucella Abortus	...	2	—	2
Serum test for " Q " Fever...	—	1	1	1

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The ambulance service continued under the control of the Lichfield Area Health Committee of the Staffordshire County Council. The District is served by the Lichfield Ambulance Station, which provides a twenty-four hour service, and, in the more outlying parts, by the Rugeley and Mile Oak Ambulance Stations.

NURSING IN THE HOME, HEALTH VISITING AND DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

These services continued, under the control of the Lichfield Area Health Committee of the Staffordshire County Council, to provide nursing for persons in need of nursing in the home, advice on the care of pre-school children, and skilled nursing attention during domiciliary confinements.

The following Clinic facilities are provided :—

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

Place	Address	Day	Time
Alrewas	Oddfellows' Hall	Tuesdays fortnightly	2—5 p.m.
Armitage	The Parish Hall	Tuesdays fortnightly	1-30—5 p.m.
Chasetown ...	Social Institute	Wednesdays weekly	1-30—5 p.m.
Fazeley	Victoria Memorial Hall	Mondays weekly	1-30—5 p.m.
Whittington	Girls' Club	3rd Thursday	2—5 p.m.

SCHOOL CLINIC

There is only one School Clinic in the District, at Chase Terrace Infants' School, where it is held weekly, on Tuesday mornings, between 9.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Place	Address	Day	Time
Chasetown ...	Social Institute	Fridays weekly	9-30 a.m.—12-30 p.m.
Armitage	The Parish Hall	Tuesdays fortnightly	1-30—2 p.m.

THE HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service is provided by Staffordshire County Council, under the authority of the National Health Service Act, 1946. It is available to mothers after confinement, the blind or partially blind, the aged and infirm, and in cases of illness of the wife, mother or other person usually responsible for household duties. The scheme is, of course, only provided on production of a medical certificate of need.

The service is not free, but those persons unable to pay the full cost are entitled to submit a claim for a reduced charge, in the light of their financial circumstances.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease are provided by the Regional Hospital Board at the General Hospital, Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent General Infirmary, General Hospital, Stafford, Manor Hospital, Walsall, and the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

No case of diphtheria occurred in the District during the year. This is the third year in succession when no case has occurred in a child under the age of fifteen years. This reflects once again the dramatic results which have been achieved by the immunisation campaign.

Every possible effort is still being made to persuade all parents to have their children immunised before they are a year old, and re-immunised at five years and ten years. It is regrettable that some parents, particularly of pre-school children, still neglect to have their children immunised at the appropriate time.

POLIOMYELITIS

The incidence of poliomyelitis was much higher than in previous years, sixteen paralytic cases and nine non-paralytic cases being notified. As stated in my introductory note, no adequate explanation for this increased incidence can be given. Fortunately, the figures for the present year to date are very much better.

FOOD POISONING

No outbreak of food poisoning occurred during the year, but four sporadic cases were notified.

Careful supervision has been exercised over the conditions under which food is prepared in restaurants, canteens and public houses, but no formal "Clean Food Campaign" was inaugurated during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND SCHOOLS

The number of children excluded from school because of infectious disease, or contact with infectious disease, was 393.

Once again, it was not necessary to close any school because of an outbreak of infectious disease.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified, other than tuberculosis, and the number of deaths from these diseases during 1950:—

NATURE OF CASE	TOTAL 1947	TOTAL 1948	TOTAL 1949	TOTAL 1950	MALE	FEMALE	AGE DISTRIBUTION	DEATHS
Scarlet Fever ..	36	35	47	59	29	30	Under 1 — 1 1 — 2 — 5 3 — 4 — 14 5 — 9 — 25 10 — 14 — 5 15 — 24 — 6 Over 25 — 2 Age N.K. — 1	
Whooping Cough	43	83	51	97	47	50	Under 1 — 11 1 — 2 — 27 3 — 4 — 20 5 — 9 — 36 10 — 14 — 1 25 and over 1 Age N.K. — 1	1
Paralytic Poliomyelitis				16	9	7	Under 1 — 1 1 — 2 — 3 3 — 4 — 3 5 — 9 — 1 10 — 14 — 1 15 — 24 — 4 25 and over 3	1
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	7	1	1	9	7	2	1 — 2 — 1 3 — 4 — 1 5 — 9 — 3 10 — 14 — 1 15 — 24 — 1 25 and over 2	
Measles	382	147	322	371	184	187	Under 1 — 7 1 — 2 — 68 3 — 4 — 94 5 — 9 — 186 10 — 14 — 11 15 — 24 — 2 25 and over 1 Age N.K. — 2	
Pneumonia ..	19	20	20	56	36	20	Under 5 — 8 5 — 14 — 12 15 — 44 — 16 45 — 64 — 10 65 and over 7 Age N.K. — 3	11
Dysentery	—	—	1	2	1	1	Under 5 — 2	
Paratyphoid ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	5 — 14 — 1	
Erysipelas	2	4	4	1	1	—	45 — 64 — 1	
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	5 — 14 — 1	
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	2	4	3	1	15 — 44 — 3 45 — 64 — 1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	2	—	1	1	1	—	Under 1 — 1	

The following table shows the number of notifications of cases of infectious disease, per 1,000 civilian population, for the District, as compared with England and Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London), 148 Smaller Towns, and London Administrative County :—

DISEASE	ENGLAND AND WALES	126 C.B.'s. AND GREAT TOWNS INCLUDING LONDON	148 SMALLER TOWNS	LONDON ADMIN. COUNTY	LICHFIELD R.D.
Typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever ...	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	1.46
Whooping Cough ...	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	2.40
Diphtheria ...	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Erysipelas ...	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.24
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	9.12
Pneumonia ...	0.76	0.77	0.61	0.50	1.38
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.39
„ (Non-Paralytic)	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.25
Food Poisoning ...	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	0.09

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of the ages of the new cases notified, and deaths from this disease, during the year :—

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	1
5—10 years	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 years	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 years	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
25—35 years	3	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45 years	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 years	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	13	7	5	7	4	1	1	1

Patients suffering from the disease were admitted to Hospitals and Sanatoria, during the year, as follows :—

King Edward VII Sanatorium, Easebourne	...	2
Prestwood Sanatorium, Stourbridge	...	4
The Limes, Himley	...	2
Newcastle Isolation Hospital	...	2

The continued high incidence of tuberculosis, compared with previous years, is shown by the following table :—

YEAR	NEW CASES	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1935	29	6
1936	22	2
1937	16	11
1938	14	11
1939	19	9
1940	25	5
1941	22	4
1942	12	6
1943	15	2
1944	21	4
1945	11	3
1946	19	6
1947	22	7
1948	22	6
1949	21	5
1950	20	12

As mentioned in a previous paragraph, overcrowding is undoubtedly a factor in the spread of pulmonary tuberculosis, while poor housing conditions, even in the absence of overcrowding, also play a part.

The considerable number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis is a particularly disturbing feature, being related, in large part, to the consumption of milk infected with tuberculosis.

During the year, investigation has revealed twenty-one cases in which milk produced in the District has been found to contain these organisms. The herd was investigated in each case by the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in order to determine the animal producing the infected milk. Notices requiring heat-treatment of the milk from the herd concerned, during the period of investigation, were served in eight instances.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERS

*(Prepared by J. G. Rimand, Esq., M.Inst. Mun.E.,
Engineer and Surveyor)*

Generally throughout the District all sewage works have shown a reasonably good effluent during the past year. These works have been well maintained and are being kept in condition by the workmen employed by you.

Alrewas.—The sewage disposal works at Alrewas is working satisfactorily but the flow from the village has continued to increase due to the erection of new houses until same is now working almost to capacity. Plans will be prepared shortly to cover the necessary extension to the works to deal with future development.

In the village of Fradley, a second small pumping station and sewage disposal plant has been constructed to deal with the sewage from the Council houses erected there during the year. The general sewerage system of this village is most unsatisfactory, and steps will have to be taken at an early date either to connect same to the Alrewas system or to provide a separate disposal works.

Armitage and Longdon.—The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for these parishes is practically completed, and same should be in operation early in 1951.

Burntwood.—The pumping station at Cannock Road is working satisfactorily, but the Peter's Lane, Edial, disposal works are in need of enlargement to deal with the large quantity of storm water received, together with improvements in the method of sludge disposal. This matter will have to be given serious attention as soon as conditions permit.

Chasetown.—The works at Chasetown are giving satisfactory service, and have sufficient reserve capacity to deal with the large development at Oakdene, part of which is now connected.

Clifton Campville.—The sewerage system of this village is very inadequate. I have, however, constructed a tank and filter bed as a temporary measure and this has resulted in a considerable improvement in the discharge from the local sewers.

Colton.—Conditions show little change in this parish, but some attention will be needed to the main sewer and the disposal works in the next few years.

Curborough and Elmhurst.—The pumping station and disposal works near to the outfall of the sewer in the Elmhurst portion of the parish is working very satisfactorily.

Drayton Bassett.—The pumping station and disposal works constructed to deal with the sewage from the Council's housing estate is working satisfactorily. The general sewerage of the village, however, is unsatisfactory and steps will have to be taken at an early date to deal with same.

Edingale.—The small pumping station and disposal works which have been constructed to deal with the Council's houses is working satisfactorily. The general sewerage system of the village, however, is unsatisfactory, and steps will have to be taken at a fairly early date to put same in order.

Fazeley.—The sewage from Fazeley is dealt with by the Tamworth Sewerage Joint Committee, passing from the main sewer in the Watling Street, under the canal, to Tamworth. Considerable development has taken place at Mile Oak and the main sewer is inadequate.

I prepared a scheme shortly before the war for providing a new sewer to relieve the flow, and the construction of a new disposal works, but this had to be deferred owing to the war. Since the war, a sewage pumping station has been constructed at Brookend, Fazeley to deal with the sewage from the housing estate.

Hammerwich.—The Watling Street Disposal Works is working satisfactorily as is also the pumping station at Triangle.

Hamstall Ridware.—The scheme prepared for the sewerage of this village is now under consideration by the Council.

Harlaston.—These works are working as well as can be expected under the circumstances, but early attention will have to be given to alterations, to provide a more regular flow by the installation of an electric pump in place of the hand pump.

Hopwas.—These works, which were reconstructed shortly before the war, are working satisfactorily.

Kings Bromley.—A scheme has been prepared for the sewerage of this village and the construction of a small disposal works. It is hoped that same may be carried out at an early date as soon as the Ministry of Health consent can be obtained.

In the meantime, the tank constructed as a temporary measure at the sewer outfall is working satisfactorily.

Longdon.—I have been engaged during the year on the carrying out of the sewerage scheme for a considerable portion of the parish. This work is now practically completed and connections may be made to same early in 1951.

Mavesyn Ridware.—The small pumping stations and sewage disposal plants constructed in Hill Ridware and Blithbury, in order to deal with the sewage from the Council houses are working satisfactorily. The general sewerage position of Hill Ridware is, however, unsatisfactory, and will have to be dealt with in the near future.

Shenstone.—The disposal works is now in a poor condition and a scheme is now in course of preparation which will provide for a modern works on a new site. The pumping station at Lynn Lane is working satisfactorily. The disposal works at Lynn are working reasonably satisfactorily but the flow is too small to give really efficient working. The disposal works at Little Aston are giving a satisfactory effluent even though they are working practically to capacity. The question of the enlargement of these works is under consideration.

Streethay.—These works were reconstructed during the war in order to deal with flow from the W.A.A.F. camp. A modern bacteria bed and humus tanks have been provided, and these are working satisfactorily.

Swinfen and Packington.—The disposal works at Botany Bay, to deal with the Council housing estate, is working very satisfactorily.

Wall.—The disposal works for this village is working satisfactorily and most of the village is now connected to same. The Muckley Corner end of the parish will, however, need attention in the future. I have prepared proposals for same being connected to the extension proposed for Hammerwich, in order that same will be dealt with at the Peter's Lane disposal works.

Wigginton.—Conditions in the portion of Wigginton village which is sewered, are quite good, the disposal being carried out by the Tamworth Sewerage Joint Committee.

Whittington.—The disposal works in this village is working satisfactorily. Consideration, however, would have to be given in the not so distant future for the modernising of same.

Brindley Heath, Elford, Hints and Weeford.—There is no change to report in the sewerage conditions existing in these parishes, which have been considered, along with the remainder of the District, by the Sub-Committee, whose report has been presented. This report makes certain recommendations as to the order of priority in which the works detailed in it shall be carried out and steps will be taken to implement the Committee's decision as soon as present conditions on the carrying out of sewage works are lifted.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Lichfield Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the District for 1950.

The continued difficulties in respect of building materials and labour has not allowed any extensive programme of housing repairs to be undertaken. The number of complaints received concerning housing defects in general continues to show an increase and due to rents of private properties remaining at their pre-war levels it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure the co-operation of owners in having repairs carried out.

A survey of all premises where food is prepared was carried out during the year and this shows that generally speaking the standard of hygiene was well maintained.

The Armitage and Longdon Sewerage Scheme was virtually completed during the year and the Council have approved a scheme of making a grant to owners who carry out conversions of existing earth or pail closets to water closets. This progressive attitude of the Council, will, I am sure, reflect itself in the increasing improvements of the sanitary conditions in these two parishes.

My thanks are given to all Members of the Council, to the Officers and staffs of all Departments for their continued support and co-operation received during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE LEEDER,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

July 24th, 1951.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supplies.—The parishes of Fazeley and Wigginton and part of the parish of Drayton Bassett are supplied by the Tamworth Waterworks Joint Board.

Part of the parish of Colton is supplied with water purchased by the Council from the Rugeley Urban District Council.

The parishes or parts thereof, of Alrewas, Armitage, Brindley Heath, Burntwood, Clifton Campville, Colton, Curborough and Elmhurst, Drayton Bassett, Edingale, Elford, Farewell and Chorley, Fisherwick, Hammerwich, Hamstall Ridware, Harlaston, Hints, Kings Bromley, Longdon, Mavesyn Ridware, Shenstone, Streethay, Swinfen and Packington, Thorpe Constantine, Whittington, Weeford and Wall, are supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Due to the advantages, which the Council fully exploited, contained in legislation prior to 1944 affecting the laying of water mains in rural districts, this area is very well served in comparison with rural districts in general in the matter of piped water supplies. Every one of its twenty-eight parishes has a system of water mains supplying all but the smaller aggregations of houses.

Further progress has been made in the course of the year in regard to the extension of water mains in the area under the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies & Sewerage Act, 1944. The scheme of mains extension at Weeford Village and Dog Lane, Weeford, reported as being in hand at the close of 1949, was completed during the year under review, the cost being £927. A number of properties were connected to it soon after it was completed and the remainder appeared to be well in hand at the close of the year. Of the eleven schemes originally submitted to and confirmed by the Ministry of Health at an estimated cost of £14,468, the position at the end of the year was as follows :—

Completed 6. In hand 0. Recommended 2. In abeyance 3.

The two schemes recommended for early progress are a main from Cross Ash to Stoneywell, Longdon, at an estimated cost of £1,680 and a main to serve parts of Goosemoor Green, Longdon, at a cost of £1,300. Initial negotiations in respect of both of these schemes were commenced in the concluding weeks of the year. No immediate action is proposed in respect of the three schemes mentioned as being in abeyance.

I am indebted to Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief, South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, for the following information relative to the piped water supplies of the district :—

1. The water supply to the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity during 1950.

2. The supply to the Lichfield Rural District is derived from eleven pumping stations which supply not only the rural area but other districts as well. Regular samples are examined, both bacteriologically and chemically from all stations pumping to supply and where treatment is installed, bacteriological examinations are also made of the raw waters. Samples are taken at monthly intervals both from the service reservoirs and from the piped supply at various points in the Rural District. During 1950 thirteen samples from Gentleshaw Reservoir were examined and all were free from coliform bacteria, and out of a total of 108 samples taken from scattered points in the district, 105 were free from all types of coliform bacteria, and of the remaining three samples two contained aerogenes in 10 ml. and one contained intermediates in 50 ml. Owing to the number of supplying stations, the complexity of distribution, and the relatively large area involved, wide variations are found in the chemical compositions of the waters supplied in the area—thus, the hardness of the water averaged during 1950 :

116 parts per million at Chase Terrace.

188 parts per million at Hamstall Ridware.

215 parts per million at Little Aston.

216 parts per million at Thorpe Constantine.

275 parts per million at Fradley aerodrome.

The December analyses for these five points are enclosed.

3. The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvent action, and the 108 tap samples examined during 1950 were all free from any detectable traces of lead.
4. Chlorination is practised at most of the Pumping Stations, but this is largely precautionary. In cases of possible contamination following burst or damaged pipes, emptying of reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination of the affected part is carried out. Special apparatus and staff are available for this purpose. The main, etc., is not brought back into use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory.
5. (a) The number of dwelling houses supplied direct at 31st December, 1950, was 7,529, and the estimated population for these houses, based on an average of 3.75 persons per house, was 28,234.
(b) The number of houses supplied by means of standpipes during 1950 is not readily obtainable but at a recent census which was undertaken for another purpose the number of houses supplied from standpipes was 121 or an estimated population of 454 persons served by this means based on the average of 3.75 persons per house. I regret that it is not possible to give this information separately in respect of each Parish without a fresh census for which I have not sufficient staff available for the time being. In view of the relatively small number of standpipes in use in your Council's area I trust that the lack of this additional information will be of no serious consequence.

The analyses referred to in (2) above showed these five samples of water to be of satisfactory quality both bacteriologically and chemically.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

1st April, 1950—31st March, 1951

The Council's Public Cleansing Service is now carried out entirely by means of direct labour employing the use of seven 10 cu. yd. vehicles, one 8 cu. yd. vehicle and a Cesspool tanker. The number of houses serviced totals 9,582, and allowing for income received for providing an increased service to Whittington Barracks, the total cost of the service amounts to £12,991/17/9. All refuse collected is disposed of by crude tipping on some fourteen tips situated in various parts of the district and careful attention is given to ensuring that the refuse does not create any nuisance from rats, flies and crickets.

The Council gave consideration to using the "controlled" method of tipping in accordance with Ministry of Health Regulations and, after careful examination, it was decided not to undertake this for the time being.

At the end of the financial year under review a national appeal was made by the Board of Trade to all Local Authorities to increase or recommence their waste paper salvage services and the Council agreed that the service provided by them during the war years and abandoned in 1948, should be reinstituted. At the time of preparing this report the service is showing a profit that may well be a substantial addition to the income of the Council.

The Council's Cesspool Emptying Service has again been operating to full capacity throughout the year and regard may soon have to be given to the provision of an additional vehicle in order to cope with the demands of this service.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

As a result of inspections made, largely as a result of complaints received from tenants, the defects enumerated below were remedied in dwelling houses during the year. Once again it has to be recorded that this work of repair has been drastically restricted owing to the continued acute shortage of building materials and labour, these factors coupled with the high cost of executing such work making it impracticable for any large scale scheme of repairs to be undertaken. The requirements of the department have again been limited to the carrying out of work of essential repair and improvement.

Defective or insufficient closet accommodation	...	...	...	45
Defective, insufficient or obstructed drainage	...	...	...	61
Defective roofs, spouting, external brickwork, etc.	...	...	...	122
Insufficient or defective light or ventilation	...	...	...	6
Dampness	...	...	...	48
Water Supply	...	...	...	20
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	9
Overcrowding	...	...	...	19
Defective plaster, floors, and other internal defects	...	...	...	319
Defective ashbins	...	...	...	40
Defective paving	...	...	...	11
Vermin infestation	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	8

In addition, nuisances were abated as follows :—

Refuse Tips	12
River and Stream Pollution...	2

HOUSING

At December 31st, 1950, the progress made in the construction of new houses in the district was as follows :—

	Bungalows	Council Houses.	Private Houses.
Completed	191	494	91
Building in progress ...	—	178	55

Having regard to the continuance of the many retarding factors which preclude the Council from progressing as rapidly as they would wish in regard to the provision of new houses the progress made as indicated in this table can be regarded as reasonably satisfactory. It is hoped that the time is not far distant when a sufficient proportion of new houses can be allocated to the occupiers of properties which are, or should be, the subject of Demolition Orders, thus enabling these worn out houses to be demolished. It is satisfactory to be able to record that many serious cases of overcrowding have been relieved during the year by allocation of new houses to the affected families.

Squatters

It is regretted that the position regarding the 64 families occupying hutments on a portion of the R.A.F. Camp at Brindley Heath shows little change for the better, though the considerable amount of repair and improvement work carried out by the Council to many of the huts on the Communal Site has rendered conditions there a little more tolerable for the occupants. The sites are the subject of regular inspection by the Public Health and Housing Departments and this, coupled with a weekly collection of household refuse ensures that conditions are maintained at as satisfactory a level as circumstances permit.

Temporary Occupation of Condemned Houses

The position in respect of these eight houses which are the subject of Demolition Orders and are let under licence authorised by Ministry of Health circular to persons rendered homeless as a result of enemy action remains substantially the same as last. Consideration was, however, being given at the close of the year to rehousing a few tenants from the worst of these houses, thus enabling them to be permanently closed or demolished.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, repealed the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Under the new Act the District Council are directly vested with the responsibilities previously held by them under delegation from the County Council.

There have been no serious cases of infestation in any part of the district. Careful control is made of all the Council's refuse tips and, whenever necessary, treatment is carried out in accordance with the methods advised and recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

There have been 36 visits in the course of the year amounting to 149 hours of the part-time rodent operator's employment. The amount received as a result of the small charge made to occupiers of private properties for this work totalled £3 4s. 0d.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

This Act repeals and consolidates the considerable legislation that has been in operation since the Shops Act, 1912, and came into force on 1st October, 1950.

A number of visits have been made during the year and in only one instance was it found necessary to issue a warning letter in respect of closing hours.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

(a) Meat and Food Inspection

The policy of inspecting casualty animals slaughtered within the rural district prior to being taken to Ministry of Food distribution centres in adjoining areas has continued throughout the year with good effect. In addition other foods are examined at the request of shopkeepers from time to time. The total weight of meat and other foods condemned during the year amounts to over 14 tons. Details are given in the following table :—

Article Inspected	Cause for Condemnation	Weight
82 lbs. Wet Fish	Unsound or unwholesome ...	82 lbs.
3 lbs. Smoked Fish	Unsound or unwholesome ...	3 lbs.
84 lbs. Bacon and Ham	Unsound or unwholesome ...	84 lbs.
82 lbs. Sausage	Unsound or unwholesome ...	82 lbs.
740 lbs. Cheese	Unsound or unwholesome ...	740 lbs.
73 tins Evaporated and Condensed Milk	Unsound or unwholesome ...	54 lbs.
89 tins Vegetables and Fruit	Unsound or unwholesome ...	131 lbs.
12 jars Jams and Marmalade	Unsound or unwholesome ...	12 lbs.
102 tins Meat and Fish	Unsound or unwholesome ...	80 lbs.
453 lbs. Cake Flour	Unsound or unwholesome ...	453 lbs.
50 lbs. Rabbits	Unsound or unwholesome ...	50 lbs.
11 Pies	Unsound or unwholesome ...	8 lbs.
38 Eggs	Unsound or unwholesome ...	5 lbs.
19 lbs. Dried Peaches	Unsound or unwholesome ...	19 lbs.
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs	Unsound or unwholesome ...	26 lbs.
30 Cow Carcasses and all organs	Tuberculosis	13150 lbs.
87 Cows' lungs	Tuberculosis	1044 lbs.
57 Cows' heads	Tuberculosis	1135 lbs.
1 Bull's Head	Tuberculosis	22 lbs.
1 Calf's Head	Tuberculosis	12 lbs.
10 Cows' Kidneys	Tuberculosis	20 lbs.
16 Cows' Livers	Tuberculosis	192 lbs.
6 Cows' Spleens	Tuberculosis	18 lbs.
3 Cows' Skirts	Tuberculosis	9 lbs.
Forequarter, Hindquarter, Brisket and Sides of Beef	Tuberculosis	800 lbs.

Article Inspected					Cause for Condemnation				Weight
11 Cows' Lungs	...	...	...	...	Pneumonia	...	...	...	132 lbs.
25 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Cirrhosis	...	...	...	206 lbs.
1 Cows' Lungs	...	...	...	...	Cirrhosis	...	...	...	12 lbs.
33 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Angioma	...	...	...	395 lbs.
14 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Fatty	...	...	...	173 lbs.
7 Cows' Lungs	...	...	...	...	Emphysema	...	...	...	82 lbs.
7 Cows' Heads	...	...	...	...	Actinomycosis	...	...	...	141 lbs.
8 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Bacillary Necrosis	...	...	...	95 lbs.
6 Cows' Lungs	...	...	...	...	Hydatid Cysts	...	...	...	70 lbs.
2 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Hydatid Cysts	...	...	...	22 lbs.
1 Cows' Spleen	...	...	...	...	Haematoma	...	...	...	3 lbs.
1 Cow Carcase and all organs	...	...	...	...	Septicaemia	...	...	...	410 lbs.
2 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Fluked	...	...	...	23 lbs.
1 Sheep's Liver	...	...	...	...	Fluked	...	...	...	4 lbs.
1 Sheep's Pluck	...	...	...	...	Fluked	...	...	...	7 lbs.
5 Cow Carcases and all organs	...	...	...	...	Oedema	...	...	...	2050 lbs.
1 Sheep Carcase and all organs	...	...	...	...	Oedema	...	...	...	60 lbs.
Flank, Brisket and Hindquarter Beef	...	...	...	...	Oedema	...	...	...	260 lbs.
90 lbs. Pork	...	...	...	...	Oedema	...	...	...	90 lbs.
1 Cow's Head	...	...	...	...	Oedema	...	...	...	20 lbs.
14 Cows' Lungs	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	170 lbs.
3 Sheeps' Lungs	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	18 lbs.
2 Cows' Spleens	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	6 lbs.
1 Cow's Kidneys	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	2 lbs.
1 Cow's Heart	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Flank, Loin and Forequarter Beef	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	270 lbs.
2 Buts of Beef	...	...	...	...	Congested	...	...	...	250 lbs.
3 Cow Carcases and all organs	...	...	...	...	Dropsical	...	...	...	1230 lbs.
1 Calf Carcase and all organs	...	...	...	...	Dropsical	...	...	...	100 lbs.
1 Sheep Carcase and all organs	...	...	...	...	Dropsical	...	...	...	50 lbs.
1 Cow Forequarter and Flank	...	...	...	...	Dropsical	...	...	...	160 lbs.
2 Pigs' Kidneys	...	...	...	...	Dropsical	...	...	...	1 lb.
1 Cow's Flank	...	...	...	...	Abscesses	...	...	...	30 lbs.
7 Cows' Livers	...	...	...	...	Abscesses	...	...	...	84 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs	...	...	...	...	Abscesses	...	...	...	12 lbs.
1 Cow's Head	...	...	...	...	Quincies	...	...	...	19 lbs.
8 Cow Carcases and all organs	...	...	...	...	Fevered	...	...	...	3520 lbs.
2 Sheep Carcases and all organs	...	...	...	...	Fevered	...	...	...	180 lbs.
1 Cow's Stomach	...	...	...	...	Inflammation	...	...	...	20 lbs.
5 Cows' Spleens	...	...	...	...	Inflammation	...	...	...	15 lbs.
1 Cow's Thick Skirt	...	...	...	...	Inflammation	...	...	...	3 lbs.
1 Cow's Flank	...	...	...	...	Inflammation	...	...	...	30 lbs.
But End of Beef	...	...	...	...	Inflammation	...	...	...	50 lbs.
20 Cows' Kidneys	...	...	...	...	Nephritis	...	...	...	30 lbs.
2 Sheeps' Kidneys	...	...	...	...	Nephritis	...	...	...	1 lb.
1 Sheep Carcase and all organs	...	...	...	...	Anaemia	...	...	...	45 lbs.
1 Cow's Kidneys	...	...	...	...	Wet	...	...	...	1 lb.
Fore and Hindquarter Beef	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	1945 lbs.
4 Buts of Beef	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	210 lbs.
12 Beef Shins	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	105 lbs.
2 Sheep's Legs	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	8 lbs.
Flanks and Briskets of Beef	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	220 lbs.
Beef Trimmings	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	216 lbs.
Mutton Trimmings	...	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	32 lbs.
1 Cow Carcase and all organs	...	...	...	...	Septic Mammitis	...	...	...	400 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs	...	...	...	...	Peritonitis	...	...	...	12 lbs.
1 Cow's Heart	...	...	...	...	Peritonitis	...	...	...	2 lbs.
1 Cow's Thick Skirt	...	...	...	...	Peritonitis	...	...	...	3 lbs.
TOTAL									... 31,938 lbs.

The following table of carcasses inspected and condemned is given in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health :—

	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed	25	405	44	83	80
Number inspected	25	399	44	83	32
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	18	1	5	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	148	—	7	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	41.6	2.27	14.4	—
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	30	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	179	1	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	4.0	52.3	2.27	—	—

(b) Ice Cream Premises.

There are five premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream within the district, two of these manufacturers use the “Hot Mix” plant to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Forty shops have been registered for the retail sale of Ice Cream and these are very largely confined to the sale of pre-packed ices.

During the year twenty-eight samples of Ice Cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, for examination. Results of these samples were as follows :—

Provisional Grade	Samples Produced	
	In the District	Outside the District
1	4	3
2	—	8
3	—	6
4	—	7

(c) Cafes, Canteens and Public Houses

There are approximately 84 premises within the District which come within the classification of a catering establishment. Having regard to the increasing standard of hygiene required for these premises a general survey was carried out during the year. Generally speaking, the standard of hygiene found was maintained at a reasonably high level. In only a very few instances was it necessary to insist on improvements being carried out and it is to the credit of the traders generally that whenever suggestions for improvements were made they were willingly carried out.

(d) Food Byelaws

The Council have adopted the Model Byelaws issued by the Ministry of Food for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.

The Byelaws came into operation on 17th July, 1950, and copies were circulated to all food traders and catering establishments throughout the District.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
 LICHFIELD, in the COUNTY OF STAFFORD
 Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act

1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE

Premises.			
Factories with mechanical power	..	..	..
Factories without mechanical power	..	..	..
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and ing construction but not including outworkers' premises)			
TOTAL	..	..	..

2.—DEFECTS

Particulars.			
Want of cleanliness	..	..	..
Overcrowding	..	..	..
Unreasonable temperature	..	..	..
Inadequate ventilation	..	..	..
Ineffective drainage of floors		..	..
Sanitary Conveniences	{ insufficient	..	..
	{ unsuitable or defective	..	..
	{ not separate for sexes	..	..
No Certificate as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire			
Emission of Fumes	..	..	..
TOTAL	..	..	..

the year 1950, for the RURAL DISTRICT OF
RD, on the administration of the Factory and
537.

OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
..	6	4	...
..	1	...	...
peer-	...	...	...
..	7	4	...

FOUND.

	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
..	1	1	...	...
..
..
..
..
..
..	1	1	...	...
..
..	2	2	...	...
..
..	4	4	...	...

C. E. JAMISON, Medical Officer of Health.

